Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1-23. (Cancelled)

- 24. (New) A method for stabilizing an arylcarboxylic acid or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof in an aqueous solution, which comprises adding a pyridonecarboxylic acid selected from
- (a) a pyridonecarboxylic acid of the formula (IV):

HO₂C
$$R^{1.5}$$
 (IV)

wherein

X

is a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom; and

R¹², R¹³, R¹⁴ and R¹⁵

are the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom, a halogen, a carboxyl group, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted acyl group, an optionally substituted acyl group, an optionally substituted aryl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

wherein R^{12} and R^{13} optionally form a 4- to 6-membered heterocyclic group with the adjacent nitrogen atom and X, and R^{14} and R^{15} optionally form a 4- to 6-membered heterocyclic group with the adjacent carbon atom, provided that when X is a nitrogen atom, R^{13} is void,

- (b) cinoxacin or
- (c) sparfloxacin,
 or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof,

to an arylcarboxylic acid of the formula (I):

L¹-R¹COOH

(I)

wherein

L¹ is an optionally substituted aryl group having not more than 14 carbon

atoms; and

R¹ is an optionally substituted alkyl group having not more than 4 carbon

atoms or a single bond,

or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof.

- 25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the pyridonecarboxylic acid is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of lomefloxacin, norfloxacin, ofloxacin, enoxacin, ciprofloxacin, tosufloxacin, fleroxacin and levofloxacin.
- **26.** (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the arylcarboxylic acid is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of ibuprofen, diclofenac, 2-naphthoic acid, 2-naphthylacetic acid, bromfenac, salicylic acid, aspirin, flufenisal, ibufenac, alclofenac, flurbiprofen, ketoprofen, naproxen and mefenamic acid.
- 27. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the pyridonecarboxylic acid is added in a proportion of 0.001-5 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the arylcarboxylic acid.